

Jan 7th, 2024 – Red Letters: Gospel of Mark (part 45)

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

There are 5 separate times in the whole chapter of Mark 13 where Jesus says, “watch!” “be ready” or “be prepared.” Can you remember a time in your life where you knew you needed to be prepared for something because you knew something was coming soon? What was it? How did you prepare yourself? Why was it so important?

Digging In

Question 1: Read Mark 13:1-6. In these verses, Jesus predicts a few things – that the temple will be destroyed, and that there will be people who will teach falsely about Jesus. The temple eventually fell as Jesus predicted in 70 AD. The New Testament is filled with warnings about false teachers and false prophets that will come.

Read Acts 20:29-30, 2 Peter 1:1-3, 3:16-18, 1 John 4:1-2, Matthew 7:15-6.

How are you preparing yourself or “watching out” so that you will not be deceived by false teachings? What regular patterns or habits can you put into your life that can help against this? H

Question 2: Read Mark 13:7-13. After reading through all the things that Jesus predicts will happen before He finally comes back, what things do you see currently happening in our world today? What encourages you about that? How does Jesus' prediction of all these things happening give you confidence that God is sovereign and in control of it all?

How can these verses remind you of God's sovereignty in the midst of persecution and trial?

Proverbs 16:4, 33

Isaiah 45:6-7

John 15:20

1 Peter 4:12-13

Question 3: Read Mark 13:10. This verse has massive implications for followers of Christ. Jesus says that “the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations.”

Read Matthew 28:19-20. How does what Jesus says in Matthew 28 and this passage coincide with each other? How do these verses get you to think about your own “mission field” that God has called you to? Have you ever thought about how you are “going and making disciples of all nations?”

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?